

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

DONNA L. FRIEDEBERG,

Plaintiff,

-against-

THE ORTHO GROUP,

Defendant.

25-CV-4049 (LTS)

ORDER DIRECTING PAYMENT OF FEE  
OR IFP APPLICATION  
AND SIGNATURE

LAURA TAYLOR SWAIN, Chief United States District Judge:

Plaintiff brings this action *pro se*. As set forth below, the Court directs Plaintiff (1) to pay the \$405.00 in fees necessary to initiate this action or submit an application to proceed *in forma pauperis* (“IFP”); and (2) to submit a signed signature page of the complaint.

**DISCUSSION**

**A. Fees**

To proceed with a civil action in this court, a plaintiff must either pay \$405.00 in fees – a \$350.00 filing fee plus a \$55.00 administrative fee – or, to request authorization to proceed without prepayment of fees, submit a signed IFP application. *See* 28 U.S.C. §§ 1914, 1915.

Plaintiff submitted the complaint without the filing fees or an IFP application. Within thirty days of the date of this order, Plaintiff must either pay the \$405.00 in fees or submit the attached IFP application. If Plaintiff submits the IFP application, it should be labeled with docket number 25-4049 (LTS). If the Court grants the IFP application, Plaintiff will be permitted to proceed without prepayment of fees. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(1).

**B. Signature**

The complaint that Plaintiff submitted is unsigned. Rule 11(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure provides that “[e]very pleading, written motion, and other paper must be signed .

. . by a party personally if the party is unrepresented.” Fed. R. Civ. P. 11(a); *see Becker v. Montgomery*, 532 U.S. 757, 764 (2001) (interpreting Rule 11(a) to require, “as it did in John Hancock’s day, a name handwritten (or a mark handplaced)”). Accordingly, Plaintiff is directed to sign and submit the attached signature page within 30 days of the date of this order.

### CONCLUSION

No summons or answer shall issue at this time. If Plaintiff complies with this order, the case shall be processed in accordance with the procedures of the Clerk’s Office. If Plaintiff fails to comply with this order within the time allowed, the action will be dismissed without prejudice.

The Court certifies under 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(3) that any appeal from this order would not be taken in good faith, and therefore *in forma pauperis* status is denied for the purpose of an appeal. *Cf. Coppedge v. United States*, 369 U.S. 438, 444–45 (1962) (holding that appellant demonstrates good faith when seeking review of a nonfrivolous issue).

SO ORDERED.

Dated: May 14, 2025  
New York, New York

/s/ Laura Taylor Swain  
LAURA TAYLOR SWAIN  
Chief United States District Judge